

# HARRISON HAPPENINGS

Spring 2006

## ECR WSS POSTAL CUSTOMER



**HARRISON HAPPENINGS**  
City of Tucson Department of Transportation  
110 South Church Avenue, Suite 3350  
Tucson, Arizona 85701



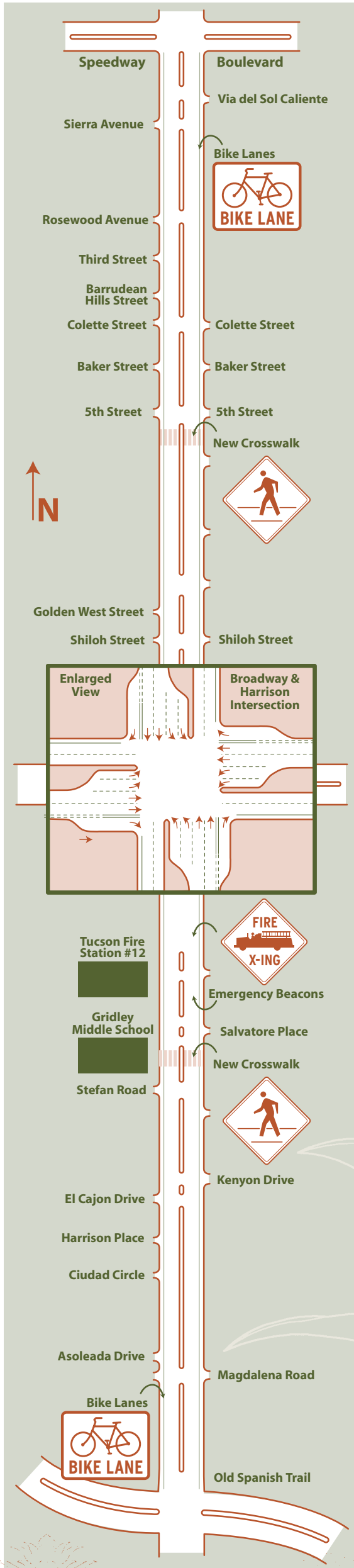
Harrison Road is well on its way to becoming a more enjoyable and convenient route for neighborhood residents and commuters. Utility relocation work began in early 2006 and construction will get underway this summer, widening the road from two to four lanes from Speedway Boulevard to just north of Old Spanish Trail. This approximately \$10.8 million project - a continuation of previous work between

Old Spanish Trail and Golf Links Road - will allow more efficient traffic flow while enhancing pedestrian and bicycle activity in the area. Landscaping and public art will also make this stretch of Harrison more pleasant and attractive. The project is scheduled for completion in 2007.

### HARRISON ROAD WILL SOON HAVE:

- Four travel lanes, plus a median
- New Broadway/Harrison intersection
- Two new signalized pedestrian-activated crosswalks
- Sidewalks on both sides
- Bikes lanes on both sides
- Landscaping on the median and shoulders
- Bus bays and parking for Gridley Middle School
- Tucson Fire station emergency beacons
- Street lighting
- New drainage system
- Public art

HARRISON ROAD IMPROVEMNT AREA



CROSSINGS

As part of this project, the intersection of Harrison Road and Broadway Boulevard will be completely rebuilt. The new intersection will have new traffic signals as well as dedicated right-turn lanes and double left-turn lanes on all sides. Pedestrians will also enjoy two new pedestrian-activated, signalized crosswalks: one at Salvatore Place (in front of Gridley Middle School) and one at 5th Street. New emergency beacons will be installed in front of Tucson Fire Department Station #12, located approximately 1/4 mile south of Broadway at 250 S. Harrison Road.

PUBLIC ART

Neighbors and public artists Stephen Grede and Nina Borgia-Aberle have worked together on this project’s artistic elements from the beginning. They chose to focus on mountain views and the local desert environment as the overall design concept, using a variety of artistic forms and a color palette of deep rust and sage green. A repeated pattern derived from agaves and pinecones will decorate the concrete retaining walls along the east side of Harrison toward the south end of the project. The images will be molded directly into the concrete and will also appear in tile. Similar elements will be incorporated into a number of new bus benches and metal barrier railings along the medians in front of Gridley Middle School. Some of the artwork design is featured in this newsletter.

SCHOOL SAFETY

The project solves a parking problem – and safety concern – near Gridley Middle School. New bus bays and parking lots have already been created along Stefan Road, to provide a safer area for parents to drop off and pick up their children. The City of Tucson and Tucson Unified School District shared the cost of this much-needed improvement.

TRAFFIC IMPACTS

Traffic will be maintained on two lanes of pavement and access will be maintained to all side streets, driveways, and businesses throughout construction. The construction will be phased to minimize the portion of Harrison Road that is under construction at any one time.

GET INFORMED!

We welcome your involvement in this important project. Several public meetings have already taken place and another will be held before construction begins in January. At that time area residents will have a chance to meet the contractor and find out more about the project schedule, phasing of the project, and management of traffic during the construction period. Recipients of this newsletter will receive a notice of the pre-construction public meeting.

BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

Because the City of Tucson Department of Transportation understands the concerns that business owners may have regarding the Harrison Road improvement project, a team of professionals has been made available to provide you with expert business assistance services during the project. Please feel free to contact **Jim Meyer at (520) 245-2507** to discuss the assistance available to you and your business. We will also distribute frequent construction alerts to announce traffic changes and restrictions, project updates and other construction activities and provide on-street signage to help businesses in the affected area.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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